



2023-2024 Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC), Cycle 12, Year 1

Competitive Grant Application: Due 11:59 p.m. CT, January 23, 2023

NOGA ID []

Application stamp-in date and time

TEA will only accept grant application documents by email, including competitive grant applications and amendments. Submit grant applications and amendments as follows:

Competitive grant applications and amendments to competitivegrants@tea.texas.gov

Authorizing legislation: Public Law 114-95, Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by Every Student Succeeds Act, Title IV, Part B (20 U.S.C. 7171-7176)

Grant period: From 08/01/2023 to 07/31/2024 Pre-award costs: ARE NOT permitted for this grant

Required attachments: Refer to the program guidelines for a description of any required attachments.

Amendment Number

Amendment number (For amendments only; enter N/A when completing this form to apply for grant funds): []

1. Applicant Information

Name of organization LA JOYA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Campus name LA JOYA ISD CDN 108912 Vendor ID 74-6001550 ESC 1 UEI
Address 200 WEST EXPRESSWAY 83 City LA JOYA ZIP 78560 Phone 956-323-2678
Primary Contact MARIA BELEM LEAL Email M.LEAL@LAJOYAISD.NET Phone 956-222-1861
Secondary Contact MAGDA VILLARREAL Email M.VILLARREAL2@LAJOYAISD.NET Phone 956-458-2389

2. Certification and Incorporation

I understand that this application constitutes an offer and, if accepted by TEA or renegotiated to acceptance, will form a binding agreement. I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and that the organization named above has authorized me as its representative to obligate this organization in a legally binding contractual agreement. I certify that any ensuing program and activity will be conducted in accordance and compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

I further certify my acceptance of the requirements conveyed in the following portions of the grant application, as applicable, and that these documents are incorporated by reference as part of the grant application and Notice of Grant Award (NOGA):

- [x] Grant application, guidelines, and instructions [x] Debarment and Suspension Certification
[x] General Provisions and Assurances [x] Lobbying Certification
[x] Application-Specific Provisions and Assurances [x] ESSA Provisions and Assurances requirements

Authorized Official Name DR.GISELA SAENZ Title SUPERINTEN Email G.SANEZ2@LAJOYAISD.NET

Phone 956-323-2005 Signature [Signature] Date 1/9/2023

Grant Writer Name MARIA BELEM LEAL Signature [Signature] Date 1/9/2023

Grant writer is an employee of the applicant organization. Grant writer is not an employee of the applicant organization.

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3. Shared Services Arrangements

Shared services arrangements (SSAs) are permitted for this grant.

Check the box below if applying as fiscal agent.

- The LEA or ESC submitting this application is the fiscal agent of a planned SSA. All participating agencies will enter into a written SSA agreement describing the fiscal agent and SSA member responsibilities. All participants understand that the "Shared Services Arrangement Attachment" must be completed and signed by all SSA members, and submitted to TEA before the NOGA will be released.

4. Identify/Address Needs

Evaluate the community needs and available resources for the community learning center by completing the community needs and community resource tables on the *Grant-Level Strategic Plan (Pre-Award)*. Then provide a narrative response describing the following:

- The multiple data sources used, and stakeholder feedback provided when conducting the need assessment.
- Why the needs assessment indicates the need for afterschool and summer programs.
- How the proposed program will address those needs, including the needs of working families
- How the needs assessment informed the targeted participation numbers for students and adult family members.

Identify & Address Needs: (10 Points): • Multiple Data Sources used, & stakeholder feedback provided when conducting need assessment: LJISD Administration and campus leadership conducted a robust needs assessment process that 1) Identified academic needs/gaps of each campus not currently being served by ACE as well as those that were about to end ACE cycle 10 to determine academic needs/gaps (student performance & teaching staff certifications & years of experience, 2) Identified academic gaps created due to COVID-19 pandemic, 3) Requested campus leadership feedback letters of commitment to ensure stakeholder commitment of participation on the 21st CCLC Cycle 12 program and, 4) Analyzed resources available to the community in order to assess specific needs of each campus selected for participation. Student performance in state & district assessments, attendance, graduation, completion rate, discipline reports, currently offered instructional programs and current available infrastructure as well as staff certifications & yrs. of experience were analyzed. The Curriculum & Evaluation Dept. compared data from 2021, and 2022 and while student data shows some improvement from 2021 to 2022, it is undeniable that the additional support the ACE Cycle 12 program could potentially offer, the program would be instrumental to ensure a steady increase in academic achievement levels. Feedback and data sources were utilized to formulate a program plan that includes a high quality after school program with HIT for identified students as per data analyzed to be implemented by highly qualified 21st CCLC Coordinators (See Attached Job Description for Elementary & Middle School ACE Coordinators).

• Why the needs assessment indicates the need for afterschool and summer programs: Data analysis indicates that while students have slowly been closing the gap created by the COVID-19 pandemic, additional support is needed which can be provided through the 21st CCLC ACE Cycle 12 program academic enrichment and HIT support.

• How will the proposed program address those needs, including the needs of working families: LJISD intends to serve a total of 1,125 students at 10 campuses and of the 1,125 students, 500 students will also receive HIT (High Impact Tutoring) services. Campuses surveyed and analyzed to participate in the program meet the criteria of being identified as located in high poverty area. The LJISD student population to be served includes Minority students, At Risk Students 80.81%, Economically Disadvantaged 93.62%, ELL 57.28%, Students w/Disabilities 11.95%, Migrants 1.14% (District Demographics PEIMS Fall 2022 Report). Each of the 10 campuses will serve students that meet one or more demographic criteria to participate in the 21st CCLC Cycle 12 program.

• How will the needs assessment inform the targeted participation numbers for students and adult family members. ACE Coordinators will collaborate with campus leadership, analyze student enrollment & implement a recruitment plan for qualifying students that will benefit the most from the program. Recruitment plan will include contacting parents and community, enrichment activities for students after school, parental component to offer parents opportunities to be engaged in their child's education as well as opportunities to gain skills to improve financial literacy, self sufficiency, attend Social Emotional programs and provide center hours to meet needs of working families that have students participating in ACE. ACE Coordinators will continuously assess enrollment.

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5. Measurable Goals and Progress

Establish a set of performance measures aimed at ensuring the availability and effectiveness of high-quality academic, enrichment, and family engagement opportunities by completing the Grant-Level Summative SMART goals on the *Grant-Level Strategic Plan (Pre-Award)*. Then provide a narrative response describing the benchmarks that will be used to measure progress toward meeting the SMART goals. Include key strategies for recruiting and retaining students, engaging with adult family members, recruiting staff, ensuring strong program operations, aligning with the school-day, and monitoring fidelity of program implementation.

Measurable Goals & Progress (10 Points)

To Ensure SMART Goals progress & successful measure of implementation, the following milestones will be implemented: First-Quarter Benchmark:

- 1) Receive NOGA July 2023 and ensure LJISD Board Agenda Item is submitted to accept grant.
- 2) Setup all Grant Accounts with District Accountant.
- 3) Collaborate with HR to assemble an Interview Committee composed of Principals from the ACE Campuses and post ACE positions to hire a Director, Coordinator, Program Specialist & Secretary as soon as possible.
- 4) ACE Coordinators will analyze data to Identify & Recruit At Risk, ELL, Minority and Sp. Ed students to participate in the ACE program and receive HIT services.
- 5) Advertise ACE Program to students, parents, community, teachers, staff & recruit certified teachers and tutors to impart after school instruction and start parent components and activities.
- 6) Data entry and reports will be entered by ACE Staff & Director to full grant compliance with TEA.

Second -Quarter Benchmark:

- 1) Ensure all ACE selected Campuses have been properly staffed with an ACE Coordinators.
- 2) Start Operations of all ACE after school centers as per Center Operations Schedule.
- 3) Director collaborates/meets with Campus Coordinators & Campus Administration to review data to evaluate progress: Attendance Report, Grade Reports, Parent Meeting Logs and Discipline Report.
- 4) Continue Identifying & Recruit At Risk, ELL, Minority, 504, RTI and Sp. Ed students to participate in the program.
- 5) Ensure adequate pool of highly qualified certified teachers is in place to provide after school ACE services.
- 6) Collaboration between ACE Coordinator/Director & Campus Leadership to ensure academic needs of students being serviced are addressed (Coordinator planning with after school teachers and regular instruction teachers) during PLC and Conference times to ensure after-school instruction is aligned to regular instructional day.
- 7) Program Specialist Coordinators conduct at least 2 parent information sessions per 6 weeks for parents of all ACE centers.
- 8) Data entry and reports will be entered by ACE Staff & Director to ensure full grant compliance with TEA.

Third - Quarter Benchmark:

- 1) Director collaborates/meets with Campus Coordinators to review data to evaluate progress: Campus Benchmark Reports, State Assessment Reports, Attendance Report, Grade Reports, Parent Meeting Logs and Discipline Report.
- 2) Ensure ACE operations after school are occurring as scheduled (sign-in, time-sheets, student attendance).
- 3) CTE, STEM / STEAM Activity Camps to increase ACE student participation and retention.
- 4) Tutoring Sessions (tailored based on students' needs) will be offered at all centers.
- 5) Provide PBIS motivation activities each 6 weeks grading period to participating students whose attendance improve by 2%.
- 6) Program Specialist oversees professional development, selection, design and implementation of family engagement activities that increase family literacy and meaningful connections to school-day learning such as parent information sessions, self-sufficiency classes, ELL classes, Parenting, Computer Literacy, Financial Literacy ...etc).
- 7) Data entry and reports will be entered by ACE Staff & Director to full grant compliance with TEA.

Fourth - Quarter Benchmark:

- 1) ACE Director will monitor and guide ACE Coordinators through implementation of high-quality programing aligned to student needs, HQIM, HIT and school day alignment academic support.
- 2) ACE Coordinators will review recruitment and retention of students on a monthly basis to ensure compliance
- 3) ACE Coordinators will review recruitment, retention and support of program staff continuously to keep a pool of highly qualified teachers available.
- 4) ACE Director & Coordinators will hold monthly meetings to ensure a safe, supportive and educationally rich environment.
- 4) Data entry and reports will be entered by ACE Staff & Director to full grant compliance with TEA.

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6. Project Evaluation and Modification

If the benchmarks or summative SMART goals do not show progress, describe how you will use evaluation data to modify your program. Include a description of how the state activities for continuous improvement will be utilized for project evaluation and modification.

(Evaluation & Modification 5 Points) To ensure project meets goals & milestones as required by program guidelines & grant requirements, the ACE Director, ACE Site Coordinator, Program Specialist and Campus Leadership will monitor attainment of program goals, strategies and objectives. Project Evaluation data will be constantly reviewed to ensure program is performing as required. Data reports will be produced and evaluated every 3 weeks (twice every 6 weeks grading period). A Program Review Time line will be created by ACE Director and reviewed for input of Campus Principals from participating campuses for final approval. In the event that SMART Goals do not show progress, ACE Director, ACE Coordinator, Program Specialist and Campus Leadership will convene to analyze evaluation data and utilize it to create a plan of action that will target the SMART Goal objectives: 1) By Aug 2023: Open 10 Centers at high poverty qualifying campuses that will enroll 20% of identified below GL in reading students to receive ACE services (1,125 students) of which 30% will attend HIT Tutoring to increase Reading performance by 10% and 100% of Students participating in HIT Tutoring will utilize HQIM products for after-school as measured by TX21 attendance. 2) By Aug 2023: Open 10 Centers at high poverty qualifying campuses that will enroll 20% of identified below GL in reading students to receive ACE services (1,125 students) of which 30% will attend HIT Tutoring to increase Math performance by 10% and 100% of Students participating in HIT Tutoring will utilize HQIM products for after-school as measured by TX21 attendance. 3) By July 2024) ACE Program will meet or exceed targeted student attendance goals as measured by TX21 and will specifically target the attendance of chronically absent students attending the ACE program. 4)By Aug 2023 LJISD will meet 100% student participation & engagement in learning by Implementing a high quality ACE Program ran by experienced ACE Coordinators who will provide 100% of participating students with an enrichment program that provides targeted activities that address S' areas of need. Attached Job Descriptions for Elementary ACE Coordinator and Middle School ACE Coordinator.

7. Statutory/Program Assurances

The following assurances apply to this grant program. In order to meet the requirements of the grant, the grantee must comply with these assurances.

Check each of the following boxes to indicate your compliance.

- 1. The applicant provides assurance that they accept and will comply with [Every Student Succeeds Act Provisions and Assurances](#) requirements.
- 2. The applicant provides assurance that the application does not contain any information that would be protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) from general release to the public.
- 3. The proposed program was developed, and will be carried out, in active collaboration with the schools that participating students attend, including through the sharing of relevant data among the schools, all participants of the eligible entity, and any partnership entities in compliance with applicable laws relating to privacy and confidentiality and in alignment with the challenging state academic standards and any local academic standards.
- 4. The community has been given notice of an intent to apply and the application and any waiver request will be available for public review after submission of the application.
- 5. Complete the Title IV, Part B Affirmation of Consultation form with Private Nonprofit School (PNP) Officials and submit the signed Affirmation to *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Reports Application*, accessible through TEAL on the same date as this grant application. If awarded, Affirmations are due annually on the same date as the 21st CCLC continuation application.
- 6. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to assurances #6-#28, all Statutory Requirements, TEA Program Requirements, and Performance Measures, as noted in the 2023-2024 Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC), Cycle 12, Year 1 Program Guidelines, and shall provide the Texas Education Agency, upon request, any performance data necessary to assess the success of the grant program.

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8. Statutory/Program Requirements

1. Describe the proposed program activities and how they are expected to improve student academic achievement and overall student success. Describe the proposed activities in each of the following areas: targeted academic support, student interest-based enrichment, and family engagement.

Statutory Program Requirements (25 Points) Strategies & Activities of sufficient quality & depth to ensure accomplishment of the goals and objectives of the grant program as outlined in the program guidelines. LJISD's proposed ACE Program will improve student academic achievement by incorporating key research strategies into the program design to:

1) Target Academic Support through a) Aligning the Program Academically with the School Day and targets TEKS & STAAR students with most needs b) Adapt Instruction to Individual and Small Group Needs in order to provide high quality student activities including HIT: LJISD Texas ACE Programs will align with the school day. Program activities will be specifically targeted to address student needs on TEKS standards, LJISD instructional goals and Campus Improvement Plans (CIP). Current district/campus resources will be maximized to address campus needs and ACE funding will supplement and not supplant existing programs. Summer programs will provide interventions for students based on their struggling areas of need to ensure individualized needs are addressed and campus academic ratings improve. LJISD will use technology resources to increase student participation and engagement and provide resources to students through CLEVER, myON, Reading Renaissance. These programs provide students with access to electronic books, audio books for students and families that will improve and increase student's and community literacy. LJISD recently started implementing the myON to provide students with reading materials due to online instruction for students asynchronous instruction due to COVID-19. Academic enrichment activities will be provided that will incorporate STEAM, STEM, and Work Based Learning hands-on teaching practices that will reinforce regular school day instruction. LJISD will provide tutoring, homework assistance, State Assessment Preparation (SAP) sessions for STAAR, TELPAS as well as activities that promote and encourage students to embrace a college going culture and connect students with orientation to current career pathways. ACE Site Coordinators will carefully review data to ensure activities & support are appropriately adapted to provide participating students with academic & social & emotional skill development activities. According to State of the State National Council on Teacher Quality "children deserve access to well-prepared teachers with a strong foundation in their subject area, the instructional skills to accelerate learning, and the understanding to support and inspire." (<https://www.nctq.org/publications/State-of-the-States-2021:-Teacher-Preparation-Policy>). LJISD will implement a high quality afterschool instructional enrichment program that will serve students with a highly qualified staff: Director: Masters Degree in Education (required), 5 years Administrative Experience in Education (required), Valid Core Area Teacher Certification & additional experience(required), see attached job description. ACE Site Coordinators: Bachelors Degree in Education or related field required, Masters Degree preferred, Teaching experience in content area preferred, 3 years ACE Program/After School Experience Required. ACE Program Specialist: Bachelor's Degree in Education from an accredited College or Univ. with a major in Curriculum & Instruction Required. Master's Degree in Education Preferred. Teaching experience preferred. Having staff that has a strong foundation and the instructional skills to accelerate learning will facilitate implementation.

2) Student Interest-based Enrichment through a) Maximizing Student Participation and Attendance through engaging activities targeting high needs students and b) Providing Engaging Learning Experiences at all ACE Centers: LJISD will offer after school activities that encourage, attract students & families to participate and are academically and culturally appropriate to all participants. LJISD will ensure families have active, meaningful participation in their student's education by providing parents with PD on how to access student grades, literacy courses, career choices, connections to Texas Workforce Development sessions, workshops & job fairs. Feedback will be constantly collected & reviewed by campus and district administration to ensure academic and enrichment activities reflect the students & parent's interests and provide student's voice and choice. LJISD's Texas ACE Centers will incorporate hands-on enrichment activities, STEAM, STEM, Fine Arts, and exciting curriculum that is aligned to the school day to ensure student academic success. Enrichment activities will supplement and not supplant current campus efforts. Activities such as Health, Nutrition, Fine Arts, STEM, STEAM, Self-Sufficiency, Technology, Culinary Arts, Gardening will be offered at all participating Texas ACE Centers.

3) Family Engagement: LJISD will incorporate engaging opportunities at all Texas ACE Centers for families of participating students. Parents will have access to technology training, self-sufficiency training, counseling, Texas Workforce Development, English Language classes, and GED classes, just to name a few. The Family Engagement Specialist will collaborate with LJISD partners and the LJISD's Parental Involvement Department to ensure participating families receive the services and support needed to ensure the educational excellence of their student(s).

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8. Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.)

2. Demonstrate how the program will use best practices, including research or evidence-based practices, to provide educational and related activities that will complement and enhance academic performance, achievement, postsecondary and workforce preparation, and positive youth development of the students.

Statutory Program Requirements (25 Points) LJISD will implement best practices that will complement & enhance academic performance, achievement, postsecondary & workforce preparation & positive youth development of students.

ENHANCE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE & ACHIEVEMENT: LJISD will implement best practices at each ACE center by ensuring Coordinators with a Bachelor's in Education or related field and prior ACE / After School program implementation experience are hired. ACE Coordinators will have the experience, capacity and leadership skills to provide guidance to teachers and mentors that will impart after-school instruction to students that aligns directly with the regular school day instruction. Having the ability to impart and model instruction for mentors/tutors as well as analyze student data and determine instructional areas of needs is key to enhancing student academic performance, achievement, postsecondary and workforce preparation.

POSTSECONDARY & WORKFORCE PREPARATION: LJISD will implement research-based programs to increase postsecondary and workforce preparation. Incorporation of activities that promote a college going culture at all 10 ACE campuses such as College Tours, Career Awareness Visits, and Transition from Elem. to Middle School Seminars will ensure elementary students transitioning to Middle School have a clear vision of the career pathway and CTE programs of study they can select as they prepare for Middle School & High School. Students will learn what Industry Based Certifications they can earn upon entering high school as well as the careers they can pursue upon high school graduation (<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/college-careerand-military-prep/career-and-technical-education>).

YOUTH DEV: Mentoring Program implementation (Source: The Role of School based Group Mentoring in Promoting Resilience among Vulnerable Students 6/2019)

3. Describe the transportation needs of participating students and how those needs will be addressed. Specifically describe how students participating in the program will travel safely to and from each center and home.

Statutory Program Requirements (25 Points)

La Joya ISD will open 10 Texas ACE Center locations. Placing centers at campus locations will ensure centers are safe and easily accessible to students and parents. La Joya ISD will provide safe transportation to and from each center and home by following district transportation policies and providing qualified adult supervision. Budgetary needs were considered and addressed in the budget section of this application to ensure transportation needs are addressed and supplement and not supplant currently provided transportation services.

Regular Program Hours: Transportation for students only after school since the centers are housed at fully functional campuses.

Weekends and Summers: Weekends and Summer program transportation will be available for all participating students. Transportation will include pick-up and drop off of students at their homes or designated pick up location.

Enrichment Travel: Centers may provide students with college trips, museums, and/or other educational related travel. Transportation will be provided for students on these event. Students will be picked up at designated center/ location and returned to designated center/location and/or home.

Options: Parents that prefer to pick up their child(ren) will be required to provide a Participant's Parental Consent Form prior to joining activities. This form will be completed by all students when joining an ACE Center and will identify the method by which the student will travel to / leave the program each day. Parents (Guardians) will be required to provide information (name and relationship) of any individual that will be allowed to pick-up a student. Students leaving early from the program must signed out by an approved parent / guardian and provide proper identification to campus staff. District guidelines will be adhered to to ensure the safety of all participating students.

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8. Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.)

4. If awarded, applicants must disseminate information about the community learning center, including its location, to the community in a manner that is understandable and accessible. Describe the applicant's plan to inform the community about the center and participating in the program.

La Joya ISD will create a comprehensive plan to disseminate information to the community regarding the 2023-2024 CCLC Cycle 12 that includes 1) Video Broadcasting, 2) Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, and District Website) and 3) Parent Connection 4) Diamond News (District Newspaper distributed to all students at La Joya ISD).

1) Video Broadcasting: La Joya ISD will broadcast to all La Joya ISD community (La Joya, Sullivan City, Peñitas, Palmview and Mission Texas) via TV Channel 17 information about the Texas ACE Centers. In collaboration with the La Joya ISD Public Information Department, a wide exposure campaign will be implemented to ensure all parents at participating campuses are informed of the centers and the services that can be accessed at each center.

2) Social Media: La Joya ISD has a very strong team of professionals in charge of the district's Social Media sector. In collaboration with the Public Information Department, La Joya ISD will ensure that information about the ACE Program is constantly advertised and provided to community members to ensure wide coverage and information dissemination. The information will be shared to all community via Face-book, Twitter and District Website as well as each individual campus website where each 21st CCLC ACE Centers will be located.

3) Parent Connection: La Joya ISD will utilize the Parent Connection system to send out district wide messages via phone and/or text to parents / community members informing them of the services provided at each location. The messaging service provides the ability to reach every parent for which the district has a phone number as well as the ability to send text messages with links embedded into the text message to access flyer and pamphlets with additional information about the Texas ACE centers. All information will be distributed in a manner that is easy to understand & culturally appropriate to our community. Information will go out in English and Spanish (written and/ printed) and will be accessible in the district website. Additionally, a La Joya ISD Texas ACE Website will be created with an individual page for each ACE campus to disseminate information and updates. 4) Diamond News distribution

5. If the program plans to use volunteers in activities carried out through the community learning center(s), describe how the program will encourage and use appropriately qualified persons to serve as the volunteers. Explain the policy for screening and placing volunteers. If the entity does not plan to use volunteers, please indicate that in the space provided. (Choosing not to use volunteers will not lower review scores)

La Joya ISD will encourage and use appropriately qualified persons to serve as volunteers during the implementation of the Texas ACE Program Cycle 12. La Joya ISD plans to partner with South Texas College and The University of Texas RGV to solicit volunteers from their Teacher/ Education Preparation Programs. This will provide a more cost-effective program and will aid in sustainability of the program beyond its funding cycle. The Program Director will meet with the appropriate staff from South Texas College and UTRGV to present the program and activities that will be offered during the program. Volunteers will be able to serve as:

- * Mentors for at risk students
- * Provide Homework Assistance
- * Supervise enrichment activities
- * Provide one-on-one tutoring

Policy for Screening and Placing Volunteers: La Joya ISD will adhere to all Texas statutes as well as District requirements for all volunteers who participate in the program. Participating individuals will be fingerprinted and undergo a criminal background check to ensure the safety of all participants served in the program. Once approved to volunteer, a training plan will be provided by the Project Director and/or the Site Coordinator. This will prepare the volunteer with the necessary skills to safely care and provide services for the students.

Additional locations will be reviewed and targeted to recruit volunteers once volunteers from STC and UTRGV have been acquired and placed. Such locations include but are not limited to: Rotary Clubs, PTA organizations, Parents and more.

Recruiting volunteers from Colleges and Universities is intended to provide students with high quality services and at the same time help future educators acquire the experience to serve students in a real education setting.

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8. Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.)

6. Demonstrate how the proposed program will coordinate federal, state, and local programs and make the most effective use of public resources at each campus served and ensure an appropriate, safe, and equipped facility. This includes coordination with, but not limited to, food services, security, health services, and special education.

Statutory Program Requirements (25 Points Cont.)

LJISD will coordinate with federal, state and local programs using existing resources such as Child Nutrition Services, La Joya ISD Police Department, La Joya ISD Special Education Department, La Joya ISD Nursing Department, La Joya ISD Transportation Department and with other appropriate community, state and federal resources to maximize the effectiveness of the program.

Additionally, In order to maximize program funding and to ensure students receive additional services, La Joya ISD will wave \$75,200 in Administrative costs (3.160%) or the 5% allowable of \$100,000. This amount will go to fund after-school activities and acquisition of additional student resources.

In regards to Safety, due to recent events in the state of Texas regarding school tragedies, La Joya ISD has implemented a high level of security protocols that every employee must train and adhere to at every campus. All ACE staff will be appropriately trained to ensure the safety of all participating students.

ACE staff will benefit from professional development opportunities provided by LJISD thought the school year in a collaborative effort to better serve participating students and their families. Existing LJISD facilities and equipment will be utilized to train teachers and partners.

7. Describe a preliminary plan for how the community learning center will continue after funding under this grant ends. Include how the resources provided by this grant will assist the program in local sustainability efforts.

(Statutory Program Requirements (25 Points Cont.)

LJISD will coordinate with federal, state and local programs using existing resources such as ESSER, Title I and Local Funding as well as with other appropriate community, state and federal resources to maximize the effectiveness of the program.

In order to maximize program funding Cycle 12 program will conduct an inventory of all current cycle 10 program assets (Cycle 10 ending June 30, 2022) which will be assigned to Cycle 12 (once they are services and verified by La Joya ISD Technology Department) in order to maximize budget spending. Additionally, In order to maximize program funding and to ensure students receive additional services, La Joya ISD will wave \$75,200 in Administrative costs (3.160%) of the 5% allowable \$100,000. This amount will go to fund afters-chool activities and acquisition of additional student resources.

ACE staff will benefit from professional development opportunities provided by LJISD thought the school year in a collaborative effort to better serve participating students and their families. Existing LJISD facilities and equipment will be utilized to train teachers and partners. Texas ACE Programs will be able to utilize existing technology equipment purchased through federal and state funds to provide services to parents and students. Through intensive PD and Title I and state compensatory funds the sustainability of this program beyond grant period will be addressed. All activities will supplement and not supplant or duplicate services currently provided.

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8. Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.)

8. Describe the proposed partnership(s) between local educational agencies, community-based organizations, and any other public or private entities. Include how the partnership will contribute to achieving stated objectives and sustaining the program over time. To receive priority points, the applicant must provide information that demonstrates the activities proposed in the application are, as of the date of the submission of the application, not accessible to students who would be served; or that it would expand access to high-quality services available in the community. TEA will provide the same priority to an application submitted by a local education agency (LEA) if the LEA demonstrates that it is unable to partner with a community-based organization in reasonable geographic proximity and of sufficient quality to meet the requirements of this grant. Check the box if applying for priority points under this special rule. If this box is checked, provide clear relevant evidence that the LEA is unable to partner with a community-based organization in reasonable geographic proximity and of sufficient quality to meet the requirements.

- This applicant is part of a planned partnership
- The applicant is unable to partner

To ensure successful implementation of the 21st CCLC program, La Joya ISD will foster partnerships that address Academic Enrichment, Leadership and Socio-Emotional components which are critical to student success. Commitment Letters that support partnership efforts are attached with this grant application for all organizations.

- **Behavioral Health Solutions of South Texas:** A non-profit organization that focuses in providing social services to participating students and their families. Due to the current pandemic situation, this partnership is critical for our students and parents to provide socio-emotional programs, counseling & support. Services to be provided include 1)Parenting Awareness & Drug Risk Education (PADRE) 2)Youth Prevention Drug & Alcohol Prevention Programs 3) Uniting Neighbors in Drug Abuse Defense (UNIDAD) 4) Empowering Communities.
- **Buckner Family Pathways:** Partnership in Texas that provides encouragement and information to assist single parents with affordable housing, child care, parenting skills, counseling, family coaching, and money management.
- **Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program:** Program helps young families and youth with limited resources—those most at risk to suffer from hunger, food insecurity and the inability to obtain help. Lessons in basic nutrition, food preparation, food budget management and food safety in settings convenient for the participants as well as fun physical activities for adult participants that can be done at home and or virtual.
- **Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Family & Community Health Programs:** Budgeting, Child Health & Safety, Gardening
- **La Joya ISD Student Services:** The 21st CCLC Cycle 12 program will closely work with the Student Services Dept Executive Director to provide services to parents at each ACE center that include self sufficiency sessions, access to ESL classes, access to GED classes and other services (free clinics, free eye glasses...etc).
- **UTRGV & South Texas College (STC):** La Joya ISD will partner with the UTRGV & STC - College of Education Preparation Programs and collaborate to recruit mentors from their current students that will assist 21st CCLC Cycle 12 students to build character, improve self-esteem and reinforce positive behavior and decision making skills.
- **Region One Education Service Center:** Serves parents with professional development and services to improve student outcomes, providing leadership and innovation to transform learning communities toward excellence.
- **Law Enforcement:** La Joya Crime Stoppers & Hidalgo County Sheriff's Department : Crime Stoppers & Sheriff's Dept. will provide students and parents with information sessions regarding safety, staying in school, drug use prevention, as well as involve students in a summer camp designed to prepare parents and students on community policing which includes safety, what to do during dangerous situations, self-defense strategies as well as lectures to discuss the merits of staying out of trouble and following school rules, and information session on safety programs.
- **Child Nutrition Department:** LJISD will partner with the LJISD Child Nutrition Department to provide students with a nutritious meal each day during the program. This will ensure students have the energy needed to be mentally focused to learn and complete homework. Providing students with a nutritious meal during the after school program is an important factor and key to ensuring the success of the program. 91.39% of LJISD students are economically disadvantaged over 50% of students age 5-17 live in poverty which surpasses the state poverty rate of 20%. A detailed list of Academic, Enrichment, Entrepreneurship/CTE, & Parental Activities is attached to this application. Additionally, LJISD will have partnerships with: **LJISD Planetarium, UTRGV STEPS Program, TWC, LJISD Transportation Dept., LJISD Technology Dept, LJISD CTE Dept, and LJISD Library Services & Inst. Res.** La Joya ISD School Board is fully committed to the program success as evident by attached letter of support (see attachments).

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8. Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.)

9. Describe how the program will coordinate with school-day to ensure that measures of student success align with the regular academic program of the school and the academic needs of participating students.

- a. If applying for Program Priority 1- Program Integration, include a description of how the grant program will integrate with other TEA initiatives designed to accelerate learning and increase specific academic student outcomes.
- b. If applying for Program Priority 2 - Accelerated Learning, include a description of how the grant program will integrate supplemental HQIM and HIT product use.

ADDITIONAL POINTS:

LJISD's proposed program will coordinate with school day program to meet student's needs & ensure success by: LJISD ACE Program Cycle 12 will align the program academically with the regular school day and targets TEKS & STAAR students with most needs. ACE Coordinators will plan during conference & PLC time with teachers and prepare lesson plans to target after-school student's needs. This will ensure activities will be specifically targeted to address student needs on TEKS standards. LJISD instructional goals & CIP will be reviewed to ensure current district / campus resources are maximized to address campus needs & ACE funding will supplement not supplant existing programs. ACE Summer program will provide interventions for students based on their struggling areas of need to ensure individualized needs are addressed & campus academic ratings improve. LJISD will use technology resources to increase student participation and engagement and provide resources to students through CLEVER, myON, Reading Renaissance. These programs provide students with access to electronic books, audio books for students and families that will improve and increase student's and community literacy. Academic enrichment activities will be provided that will incorporate STEAM, STEM, and WBL hands-on teaching practices that will reinforce regular school day instruction. The ACE program will also incorporate HIT (High Impact Tutoring and provide homework assistance, State Assessment Preparation (SAP) sessions for STAAR, TELPAS as well as activities that promote and encourage students to embrace a college going culture and connect students with orientation to current career pathways. LJISD will adapt Instruction to individual & small group needs: LJISD will carefully review data to ensure activities & support are appropriately adapted to provide students with academic & social & emotional skill development activities.

PRIORITY 1) Work Based Learning (WBL) & Blended Learning (BL)

The ACE Coordinators will plan with Campus Administration and after school teachers in order to prepare lesson plans that implement activities that incorporate Work Based Learning (WBL) & Blended Learning (BL) Program in the ACE after school program. Elementary and Middle School students will be introduced to the CTE Career Pathways and Industry Job Certifications. While students are too young to experience internships in the workplace, students will be able to experience internships within the school campus such as: Office Clerk Intern, Counselor Intern, Library Clerk Intern, Head Custodian Intern, and Principal Intern for those interested in the Education Pathway. This internships will provide the students with the opportunity to learn about the career and working for an "employer" in the field of interest for a limited period of time. Appropriate rubrics with learning expectations, sign/ins, Intern Code of Conduct ..etc would need to be created in order to provide the students with a full intern experience. In addition to the WBL, the Blended Learning (BL) program would also be implemented at the participating campuses. ACE Coordinators would plan with regular instruction teachers to ensure regular day classroom instruction continues in a Blended Learning model for students participating at the ACE program.

PRIORITY 2) High Impact Tutoring (HIT)

La Joya ISD 2023-2024 Cycle 12 ACE Campuses will implement High Impact Tutoring (HIT) at all participating ACE Campuses. Through the 2023-2024 Nita M. Lowey 21st CCLC Cycle 12, year 1 Program, La Joya ISD is proposing to open 10 ACE Centers at 5 Elementary campuses and 5 Middle Schools which house a total of 6,033 students.. Through these ten centers La Joya ISD plans to serve a total of 1,125 students of which 500 will also receive HIT Services. The ACE Cycle 12 Director will collaborate and plan with ACE Site Coordinators, Campus Leadership and District Leadership to identify and student data is carefully reviewed and a schedule of services is created to service students that are identified in need of HIT services.

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9. Equitable Access and Participation

Check the appropriate box below to indicate whether any barriers exist to equitable access and participation for any groups that receive services funded by this grant.

- The applicant assures that no barriers exist to equitable access and participation for any groups receiving services funded by this grant.
- Barriers exist to equitable access and participation for the following groups receiving services funded by this grant, as described below.

Group	<input type="text"/>	Barrier	<input type="text"/>
Group	<input type="text"/>	Barrier	<input type="text"/>
Group	<input type="text"/>	Barrier	<input type="text"/>
Group	<input type="text"/>	Barrier	<input type="text"/>

10. PNP Equitable Services

Are any private nonprofit schools located in the public school attendance zones of the campuses and feeders proposed to be served by the centers in the application?

- Yes No

If you answered "No" to the preceding question, stop here. You have completed the section. Proceed to the next page.

Are any private nonprofit schools participating in the grant?

- Yes No

If you answered "No" to the preceding question, stop here. You have completed the section. Proceed to the next page.

Assurances

- The applicant assures that it discussed all consultation requirements as listed in Section 1117(b)(1), and/or Section 8501(c)(1), as applicable with all eligible private nonprofit schools.
- The applicant assures the appropriate Affirmations of Consultation will be provided to the TEA Private Schools Ombudsman in the manner and timeline to be requested.
- The applicant assures that the total grant award requested includes any funding necessary to serve eligible students from private nonprofit schools within the attendance area of the public schools to be served by the grant.

Equitable Services Calculation

1. Total 21st CCLC program enrollment for all centers	<input type="text"/>
2. Enrollment in 21st CCLC of students attending participating private schools	<input type="text"/>
3. Total 21st CCLC program and participating private school students (line 1 plus line 2)	<input type="text"/>
4. Total year 1 proposed grant budget for serving students in all centers	<input type="text"/>
5. Applicant reservation for required staff payroll.	<input type="text"/>
6. Total grant amount for provision of ESSA PNP equitable services (line 4 minus line 5)	<input type="text"/>
7. Per-pupil grantee amount for provision of ESSA PNP equitable services (line 6 divided by line 3)	<input type="text"/>
Grantee's total required ESSA PNP equitable services reservation (line 7 times line 2)	<input type="text"/>

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11. Request for Grant Funds

List all of the allowable grant-related activities for which you are requesting grant funds. Include the amounts budgeted for each activity. Group similar activities and costs together under the appropriate heading. During negotiation, you will be required to budget your planned expenditures on a separate attachment provided by TEA.

Payroll Costs

1.	ACE Staff: Director, Site Coordinators, Program Specialist, Secretary	\$615,955
2.	Professional Staff Extra Duty Pay	\$55,000
3.	Support Staff Extra Duty Pay	\$222,000
4.	Fringe Benefits (Health Insurance, Medicare, Work Comp, TRS)	\$213,190
5.		

Professional and Contracted Services

6.	Tutoring Services	\$35,000
7.	Team Building Camps Mental Health, Emotional Health	\$35,000
8.	PBIS Workshops & Resources to impact S' behavior, mental health & SEL for positive behavi	\$10,000
9.	Parental Involvement Training Workshops	\$10,000
10.		

Supplies and Materials

11.	Supplies & Materials to conduct afterschool program and HIT services at 10 centers	\$701,855
12.		
13.		
14.		

Other Operating Costs

15.	ACE Program Transportation Costs (Student Buses)	\$75,000
16.	ACE Staff allowable travel per program guidelines	\$12,000
17.	Student Travel to conferences allowable per program guidelines	\$15,000

Capital Outlay

18.		
19.		
20.		

Direct and indirect administrative costs:

TOTAL GRANT AWARD REQUESTED:

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Appendix I: Negotiation and Amendments

Leave this section blank when completing the initial application for funding.

An amendment must be submitted when the program plan or budget is altered for the reasons described in the "When to Amend the Application" document posted on the [Administering a Grant](#) page of the TEA website and may be emailed to competitivegrants@tea.texas.gov. Include all sections pertinent to the amendment (including budget attachments), along with a completed and signed copy of page 1 of the application. More detailed amendment instructions can be found on the last page of the budget template.

You may duplicate this page.

For amendments, choose the section you wish to amend from the drop down menu on the left. In the text box on the right, describe the changes you are making and the reason for them.

Always work with the most recent negotiated or amended application. If you are requesting a revised budget, please include the budget attachments with your amendment.

Section Being Negotiated or Amended	Negotiated Change or Amendment
<input type="text"/>	
<input type="text"/>	
<input type="text"/>	
<input type="text"/>	
<input type="text"/>	

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